

The State of Alabama,  
Baldwin County.

1972  
Circuit Court, SPRING Session, 1955

The Grand Jury of said County charge that before finding this indictment

Willie Woodrow Merritt, whose name is to the Grand Jury otherwise unknown, unlawfully, but without malice, or the intention to kill, killed Joe Dusek, by negligently running the automobile which he was driving into the automobile in which the said Joe Dusek was riding,

against the peace and dignity of the State of Alabama.

*Kenneth Cooper*  
Solicitor of the Twenty-Eighth Judicial Circuit.

No. \_\_\_\_\_

The State of Alabama  
Baldwin County,

Circuit Court

SPRING SESSION ~~XXXX~~ 19-55

The State  
vs.

WILLIE WOODROW MERRITT

## INDICTMENT

MANSLAUGHTER, SECOND DEGREE  
No. Prosecutor

### WITNESSES:

MRS JOE DUSEK 5:15

R. E. ETHERIDGE 4:35

R. C. HENDRICK 4:45

GRAND JURY NO. 6

A TRUE BILL

Ebenezer B. Bloyhew  
Foreman Grand Jury.

Filed in open Court and in the presence of  
the Grand Jury on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of  
March, 1955

Archie French  
Clerk.

Presented in open Court to the presiding  
Judge by the Foreman of the Grand Jury, in the

presence of 17 other Grand Jurors.

Archie French  
Clerk.

Bail fixed \$ 750<sup>00</sup>

W. M. Vace  
Judge.

We the jury find defendant guilty  
as charged and fined \$500<sup>00</sup>

Archie French  
Clerk

1972

The State of Alabama,

Baldwin County.

We, Willie Woodrow Murrett, as principal, and undersigned as sureties agree to pay THE STATE OF ALABAMA, the sum of Seven Hundred & 75 Cents 750<sup>00</sup> DOLLARS unless the said Willie Woodrow Murrett appears at the Next Term, 1975 of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama and from term to term thereafter until discharged by law, to answer a criminal prosecution for the offense of

Man Slaughter 2 Degrees

We hereby waive as to all amounts that may become due hereunder the benefit of all laws exempting personal property from levy and sale under execution or other process for the collection of debt by constitution or laws of the State of Alabama, and we hereby severally certify that we have property over and above all debts, liabilities, exemptions and this bond to the amount of: real property of the value of \$2,000.00 and personal property of the value of \$1,000.00.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the

Willie Woodrow Murrett S.

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ L. S.

BROADUS, PIERCE & DICKERSON

BONDING COMPANY

\_\_\_\_\_ Baldwin County, Ala.

\_\_\_\_\_ L. S.

By: Harold Ray L. S.

Taken and approved this the 22 day of March 1975

Taylor McElwain, Sheriff

By: J. M. Taylor, Deputy Sheriff

No. 1972

The State of Alabama,  
Baldwin County

\_\_\_\_\_ Court

Sheriff's Office

THE STATE

VS.

Sheriff's Appearance Bond

Amount of Bond, \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Filed \_\_\_\_\_, 195\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk

Printed by Moore Ptg. Co.

State  
vs  
Willie Woodrow Merritt

# JURY LIST

Spring Term, March 28, 1955

47  
35  
42  
24  
18

NO.	NAME	OCCUPATION	ADDRESS
<del>1</del>	<del>Red B. Bryars</del>	<del>carpenter</del>	<del>Perdido</del>
<del>2</del>	<del>Luther Arant</del>	<del>postal clerk</del>	<del>Foley</del>
<del>3</del>	<del>Frank Kriss</del>	<del>farmer</del>	<del>Silverhill</del>
<del>4</del>	<del>Walter P. Richter</del>	<del>farmer</del>	<del>Elberta</del>
<del>5</del>	<del>Cec. Bertagnolli</del>	<del>filling station</del>	<del>Daphne</del>
<del>6</del>	<del>Edmond Clay McGowin</del>	<del>farmer</del>	<del>Latham</del>
<del>7</del>	<del>Ralph C. Brown</del>	<del>Foley</del>	
<del>8</del>	<del>Winn Martin</del>	<del>clerk</del>	<del>Foley</del>
<del>9</del>	<del>Randolph McGowin, Jr.</del>	<del>sales</del>	<del>Bay Minette</del>
<del>10</del>	<del>George Stewart</del>	<del>farmer</del>	<del>Foley</del>
<del>11</del>	<del>Adrian Quinley</del>	<del>mechanic</del>	<del>Bay Minette</del>
12	J. Rufus Sirmon	farmer	Daphne
<del>13</del>	<del>Andrew Calloway</del>	<del>fisherman</del>	<del>Bon Secour</del>
14	William Roberson	laborer	Robertsdale
<del>15</del>	<del>I. C. Grimes</del>	<del>produce man</del>	<del>Loxley</del>
16	Hollis Leavins	meat distributor	Fairhope
<del>17</del>	<del>Ted McGowan</del>	<del>mechanic</del>	<del>Bay Minette</del>
18	Louis E. Childress	farmer	Fairhope
<del>19</del>	<del>Charlie Pucky</del>	<del>farmer</del>	<del>Robertsdale</del>
<del>20</del>	<del>John Robinson</del>	<del>manager</del>	<del>Foley</del>
<del>21</del>	<del>Ralph Green</del>	<del>farmer</del>	<del>Loxley</del>
<del>22</del>	<del>Clarence Hand</del>	<del>farmer</del>	<del>Foley</del>
<del>23</del>	<del>Sam Parker</del>	<del>auditor</del>	<del>Magnolia Springs</del>
<del>24</del>	<del>Thomas Coleman</del>	<del>farmer</del>	<del>Perdido</del>
<del>25</del>	<del>Dellar Taylor</del>	<del>merchant</del>	<del>Lottie</del>
26	Paul Geger	electrician	Fairhope
27	Aaron Bishop	farmer	R. F. D. Fairhope
<del>28</del>	<del>Riley Weeks</del>	<del>carpenter</del>	<del>Foley</del>
<del>29</del>	<del>Norvelo Cabiness</del>	<del>filling sta.</del>	<del>Bay Minette</del>
<del>30</del>	<del>Ira N. Underwood</del>	<del>farmer</del>	<del>Summerdale</del>
31	Frank Stewart	mechanic	Bon Secour
32	Jack Powers	farmer	Summerdale
<del>33</del>	<del>Woodrow Bryant</del>	<del>farmer</del>	<del>Stockton</del>
34	Alfred H. Holman	farmer	Fairhope

~~35 Ted Fraser, plumber, Bay Minette~~

~~36 I. C. Wynn, farmer, Summerdale~~ 103

~~37 R. O. Collins, retired navy, Robertsdale~~

~~38 Tillman Allen, farmer, Gateswood~~

~~39 Axel Rundquist, insurance salesman, Silverhill~~

~~40 Edward P. Moore, Brookley Field, Robertsdale~~

~~41 Tillman Wilson, bookkeeper, Stapleton~~

~~42 Robert S. Duck, Jr., nurseryman, Loxley~~

~~43 John Bauer, farmer, Summerdale~~ 56

~~44 Hubert Mennick, laborer, Fairhope~~ 106

~~45 Forrest W. Lowery, farmer, Robertsdale~~ 54

~~46 William A. Bryant, Jr., reserve fleet, Stockton~~ 104

~~47 Hurley Ard, farmer, Robertsdale~~ 51

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1972

Willie Woodrow  
Merritt



The State of Alabama, }  
Baldwin County.

We, Willie Woodrow Merrett, as  
principal, and undersigned as sureties agree to pay THE STATE OF ALABAMA, the sum of  
Five Hundred \$ 500.00 DOLLARS  
unless the said Willie Woodrow Merrett appears at the  
Next Term, 1955 of the Grand Jury Court of Baldwin County, Alabama  
and from term to term thereafter until discharged by law, to answer a criminal prosecution for the offense of

Man Slaughtering

We hereby waive as to all amounts that may become due hereunder the benefit of all laws exempting personal property from levy and sale under execution or other process for the collection of debt by constitution or laws of the State of Alabama, and we hereby severally certify that we have property over and above all debts, liabilities, exemptions and this bond to the amount of: real property of the value of \$2,000.00 and personal property of the value of \$1,000.00.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 195\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Baldwin County, Ala.

Taken and approved this the 20 day of Dec, 1954

By:

Jaylor Wilkins

, Sheriff

By

J. J. Merrett

, Deputy Sheriff

Willie Woodrow Merrett S.

Mary Lee Price L. S.

BOARDING HOUSE L. S.

BONDING COMPANY L. S.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, }

Baldwin County

To Any Sheriff of the State of Alabama:

An indictment having been found against

Willie Woodrow Merritt

at the Spring Term, 1955, of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, for the offense of

manslaughter, 2nd degree

you are, therefore, commanded forthwith to arrest the said Defendant and commit

to jail, unless he give bail to answer said indictment, and that you return this Writ according to law.

Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1955

Deice L. L. L.  
Clerk Circuit Court of Baldwin County.

The State of Alabama, }

Baldwin County.

We, \_\_\_\_\_, as principal and

the other undersigned as sureties, agree to pay the State of Alabama \_\_\_\_\_

Dollars, unless the said \_\_\_\_\_ appears

at the \_\_\_\_\_ Term of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, and from Term to

Term thereafter until discharged by law, to answer a criminal prosecution for the offense of \_\_\_\_\_

In signing the above bond we and each of us hereby waive all legal rights of exemptions allowed us by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Alabama.

Witness our hands and seals this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(L. S.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(L. S.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(L. S.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(L. S.)

Taken and approved \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sheriff of Baldwin County.

1972

CAPIAS

No. 6-

The State

vs.

Willie Woodrow Murritt

Bail fixed in this Case in Open Court at

\$ 7500

By H. M. Hall  
Judge Presiding

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk.

Executed this 22 day of Mar., 1972

By arresting the within

named Defendant

and placing him in jail

Taylor Wilkins, Sheriff

John, Deputy Sheriff

D.M.C.

AFFIDAVIT

Printed by Moore Printing Co.

State Of Alabama, }  
Baldwin County. }

In the Justice Court of

T. C. HAND

Before me, T. C. HAND

, Justice of the Peace

in and for said County, personally appeared Taylor Wilkins who, being  
duly sworn, deposes and says on oath that he has probable cause for believing and does believe that in said County,  
on or about 17 December 1954 that one Willie Woodrow Merritt  
unlawfully, but without malice, or the intent to kill, killed Joe Dusek  
by negligently running into the motor vehicle in which Joe Dusek was riding.

against the peace and dignity of the State of Alabama.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18

day of December, A. D., 19 54

J. P.

WARRANT

State Of Alabama, }  
Baldwin County. }

To Any Lawful Officer of Said County, Greetings:

You are hereby commanded to arrest Willie Woodrow Merrill

and bring him

before me to answer the State of Alabama on a charge

Manslaughter

and have you then and there this writ with your return thereon

Witness my hand this 18 day of December, 19 54

J. P.

No. \_\_\_\_\_

Page \_\_\_\_\_

**The State of Alabama**  
Baldwin County

JUSTICE COURT OF

T. C. HAND

**AFFIDAVIT**

THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
VS.

Willie Woodrow Merritt

Witnesses for the State:

Taylor Wilkins

R. E. Etheridge  
Robbins

R. C. Hendrick  
Shore Patrol

Mrs Joe Dusek

Justice Court of  
Baldwin County

**Warrant of Arrest**

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  
vs.

Willie Woodrow Merritt

Executed this 17 day of December 1954

By arresting the within

named Defendant

Willie Woodrow Merritt

and placing him

in jail

*R. E. Etheridge* H.T.  
Sheriff

Deputy Sheriff

1972

## Transcript of Criminal Cases from Justice Court of Baldwin County, Ala.

Attorneys	Case	Charge
	THE STATE OF ALABAMA,	
No. <i>6879B</i>	Vs.	
	<i>Willie Woodrow Merritt</i>	<i>Manslaughter</i>

	Disposition of Case	Fees	Amount
	Affidavit made and Warrant Issued to <i>Jaylen welkins</i>	Judge's Fees	
	Returnable <i>Grand jury</i>	Warrant at 50c, Affidavit at 25c	<i>.75</i>
	Witness—for State <i>Jaylen welkins</i>	Bond at 50c, Sci Fa. at 50c	
	<i>E. R. Etheridge</i>	Witnesses' Recognizances at 25c	
	<i>R. C. Hendricks</i>	Subpoenas or notice at 25c	
	<i>Shan Patrol.</i>	Continuance at 25c	
	<i>Mr. Joe Susek</i>	Trial of Misdemeanor at \$1.00	
<i>20 Dec 54</i>	<i>Wanted Grand jury.</i>	Mittimus at 25c	<i>25</i>
	<i>Bond set \$50000</i>	Judgment on Forfeited Bond at 25c	
	<i>ref. Postal bond</i>	Taking Bond, etc., on Appeal at \$1.00	
		Execution of costs at 25c	
		Constable's Fees	
		Subpoena or Notice at 25c	
		Carrying Defendant before Justice	
		each mile for himself and guard at 10c	
		Arrest 50c	
		Sheriff's Fees	
		Arrest \$2.00, Bond \$1.00, Sci Fa. 50c	<i>5.00</i>
		Guard \$2.00, Finger Printing 10c	<i>2.00</i>
		Subpoenas at 50c, Mileage	
		Witness Fees	
		Days at 50c	
		Days at 50c	
		Days at 50c	
		Days at 50c	
		Days at 50c	
		Days at 50c	
		Days at 50c	
		Defendant's Costs	
		Witnesses' Recognizance at 25c	
		Subpoenas at 50c	
		Executing Subpoenas	

*D. J. Land*  
*Justice Court*

1972